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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

KIM, EDWARD J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/581,952	Applicant(s) MASHINSKY, ALEX	
	Examiner EDWARD J. KIM	Art Unit 2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/23/2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-29 and 31-49 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-29 and 31-49 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 June 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/22/2007, 06/07/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is a responsive to the application filed on 10/23/2006.
2. Claims 1-3, 5-29, 31-49 are pending in this office action.
3. The claims are directed towards apparatus and method for providing a user with a unit that acts as a gateway for communicating with home or office devices.

Specification

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
5. This application does not contain an abstract of the disclosure as required by 37 CFR 1.72(b). An abstract on a separate sheet is required.
6. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it does not commence on a separate sheet in accordance with 37 CFR 1.52 (b)(4) and does not meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.72(b). A new abstract of the disclosure is required and must be presented on a separate sheet, apart from any other text. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.

Art Unit: 2155

- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) THE NAMES OF THE PARTIES TO A JOINT RESEARCH AGREEMENT.
- (e) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC.
- (f) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.
 - (1) Field of the Invention.
 - (2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
- (g) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.
- (h) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).
- (i) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.
- (j) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (l) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

8. Claim 14 recites the limitation "portable data collection". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Objections

9. Claims 11, 31, and 34 are objected to because of the following informalities:

The dependencies of the claims are incorrect. Appropriate correction is required. It is suggested by the Examiner that the Applicant re-check the dependencies of all the claims for further informalities.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

11. Claims 1, 4,5, 7-14, 18, 19, 21, 23-25, 27, 30-38, 42, 43, and 46-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Humpleman et al. (US Patent #7,103,834 B1), hereinafter referred to as Humpleman.

Humpleman discloses, a method and system for detecting , commanding, and controlling diverse home devices currently connected to a home network, utilizing an interface that is provided for accessing the home devices that are connected to a home network.

Regarding claim 1, Humpleman discloses, an apparatus for remotely controlling at least one electronic device having a communication interface in a local operating environment (Humpleman, Abstract, col.1 ln.24-35, col.1 ln.48-52, col.2 ln.18-36, col.5 ln.57 - col.6 ln.2.), comprising:

a processor (Humpleman, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67. Humpleman discloses the use of computing devices which utilize processors, such as PCs.);

a translation engine operatively coupled to the processor for converting at least one of data, communications from RF devices or data protocols for transmitting/receiving data to the at

least one electronic device (Humbleman, Abstract, col.4 ln.21-53, col.5 ln.35-40. Humbleman discloses the use of various networking protocols, including wireless communications.);

an interface for receiving and transmitting commands from the apparatus to the communication interface of the at least one electronic device (Humbleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67), said commands including centralized status data of the at least one electronic device (Humbleman, col.5 ln.17-40, col.8 ln.37-54. Also, Humbleman discloses the use of a database for status data of the devices in col.12 ln.3-6.);

memory operatively coupled to the processor (Humbleman, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67. Humbleman discloses the use of computing devices that include memory, such as PCs.);

a database operatively coupled to the processor for storing centralized status data of the at least one electronic device (Humbleman, col.2 ln.32-43, col.5 ln.16-27, col.21 ln.54, col.12 ln.3-6, col.5 ln.24-30. Humbleman, Abstract, fig.8, fig.11, fig.12, col.9 ln.28, col.9 ln.45, col.14 ln.15-30. Humbleman discloses the use of device link file and page, and session manager where the states of the home devices are acknowledged and stored. Humbleman, col.5 ln.17-40, col.8 ln.37-54. Also, Humbleman discloses the use of a database for status data of the devices in col.12 ln.3-6.);

and a display for providing an indication of the status of the at least one electronic device (Humbleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67).

wherein the apparatus authenticates the at least one electronic device via the interface and the communication interface of the at least one electronic device upon recognizing the at least one electronic device (Humbleman, col.2 ln.33-49, col.6 ln.21-31, col.8 ln.10-31, col.10 ln.41-

col.11 ln.64, col.21 ln.6-10, Fig.1. Humpleman discloses the method of discovering devices on the home network, creates a device link file, authenticating which devices are currently connected to the device. Also, Humpleman discloses the use of security features, authenticating devices and users.).

Regarding claim 4, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 1, and further discloses, an apparatus further comprising: an interface for receiving and transmitting commands from the apparatus to the communication interface of the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.4 ln.5-21, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67. Humpleman discloses a universal interface for viewing and controlling the home devices. An example of the interface is given as an internet-based interface.).

Regarding claim 5, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 1, and further discloses, an apparatus further comprising at least one memory card (Humpleman, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67).

Regarding claim 7, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 1, and further discloses, an apparatus wherein the apparatus is connected to a communication network (Humpleman, col.3 ln.48-50, col.10 ln.41-45).

Regarding claim 8, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 7, and further discloses an apparatus wherein the communication network is the Internet (Humpleman, col.3 ln.48-50, col.10 ln.41-45).

Regarding claim 9, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 1, and further discloses an apparatus wherein the apparatus is a data collection server (Humpleman, Abstract, fig.8, fig.11, fig.12, col.9 ln.28, col.9 ln.45, col.14 ln.15-30. Humpleman discloses the use of device link file and page, and session manager where the states of the home devices are acknowledged and stored.).

Regarding claim 10, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 1, and further discloses, an apparatus, wherein the communication interface is a WiFi device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67. Humpleman discloses the use of wireless protocols and devices for the home networking system.).

Regarding claim 11, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 4, and further discloses, an apparatus wherein the communication interface is a WiFi device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67. Humpleman discloses the use of wireless protocols and devices for the home networking system.).

Regarding claim 12, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 4,
12. The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the interface comprises at least an infrared interface, an

RF interface, and a WiFi interface (Humbleman, Abstract, col.4 ln.21-53, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67. Humpleman discloses the use of wireless protocols and devices for home networking system.).

Regarding claim 13, Humpleman discloses, a system for remotely controlling at least one electronic device in a local operating environment (Humbleman, Abstract, col.1 ln.24-35, col.1 ln.48-52, col.2 ln.18-36, col.5 ln.57 - col.6 ln.2.), comprising: a data collection device for forwarding commands over a network to the at least one electronic device (Humbleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67);

at least one component interactively coupled to the system via an internal interface or a LAN which is connected to the network (Humbleman, col.5 ln.29-40, col.6 ln.3-7);

an external display unit connected to the network for remotely controlling the portable data collection device upon accessing the system (Humbleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67);

an authentication device for providing remote access to the system (Humbleman, col.2 ln.33-49, col.6 ln.21-31, col.8 ln.10-31, col.10 ln.41-col.11 ln.64, col.21 ln.6-10, Fig.1.

Humpleman discloses the method of discovering devices on the home network, creates a device link file, authenticating which devices are currently connected to the device. Also, Humpleman discloses the use of security features, authenticating devices and users.);

and a third party device connected to the network for continuously monitoring the system (Humbleman, Abstract, col.1 ln.24-35, col.1 ln.48-52, col.2 ln.18-36, col.5 ln.57 - col.6 ln.2.).

Regarding claim 14, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 13, and further discloses, a system wherein the portable data collection device comprises a processor (Humpleman, col.4 ln.21-53, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67.

Humpleman discloses the use of computing devices which utilize processors, such as PCs, laptops, etc. Also, it is disclosed that the devices may utilize wireless protocols for the home networking system.);

a translation engine operatively coupled to the processor for converting at least one of data, communications from RF devices or data protocols for transmitting/receiving data to the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, Abstract, col.4 ln.21-53, col.5 ln.35-40. Humpleman discloses the use of various networking protocols, including wireless communications.);

an interface for receiving and transmitting commands from the apparatus to the communication interface of the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67), said commands including centralized status data of the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.17-40, col.8 ln.37-54. Also, Humpleman discloses the use of a database for status data of the devices in col.12 ln.3-6.);

memory operatively coupled to the processor (Humpleman, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67. Humpleman discloses the use of computing devices that include memory, such as PCs);

a database operatively coupled to the processor for storing centralized status data of the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, col.2 ln.32-43, col.5 ln.16-27, col.21 ln.54, col.12 ln.3-6, col.5 ln.24-30);

and a display for providing an indication of the status of the at least one electronic device (Humbleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67).

Regarding claim 18, Humbleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 16, and further discloses, a system wherein the authentication device directly accesses the data collection device via the RF interface (Humbleman, col.4 ln.21-53, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67.).

Regarding claim 19, Humbleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 13, and further discloses, a system wherein the authentication device is a wireless device (Humbleman, col.4 ln.21-53, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67.).

Regarding claim 21, Humbleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 13, and further discloses wherein the network includes a .Net network connected to the Internet (Humbleman, col.3 ln.48-50, col.10 ln.41-45).

Regarding claim 24, Humbleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 23, and further discloses, wherein the home appliances are at least one of a refrigerator, or an oven (Humbleman, col.1 ln.24-39).

Regarding claim 23, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 13, and further discloses, a system wherein the at least one electronic device is a home alarm system, a digital video recorder, a personal computer, a cable modem, a camera, a PBX system and corresponding phones, and home appliances (Humpleman, col.1 ln.24-39).

Regarding claim 25, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 13, 25. The system of claim 13, wherein the internal interface is a WiFi device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67. Humpleman discloses the use of wireless protocols and devices for the home networking system.).

Regarding claim 27, Humpleman discloses, a method for remotely controlling at least one electronic device having a communication interface in a local operating environment, comprising: forwarding at least one of data, communications from RF devices or data protocols for transmitting/receiving data to a translation engine operatively coupled to a processor (Humpleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67);

converting the forwarded at least one of data, communications, data protocols in the translation engine (Humpleman, Abstract, col.4 ln.21-53, col.5 ln.35-40. Humpleman discloses the use of various networking protocols, including wireless communications.);

authenticating the at least one electronic device at a data collection device upon recognizing the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, col.2 ln.33-49, col.6 ln.21-31, col.8 ln.10-31, col.10 ln.41-col.11 ln.64, col.21 ln.6-10, Fig.1. Humpleman discloses the method of

Art Unit: 2155

discovering devices on the home network, creates a device link file, authenticating which devices are currently connected to the device. Also, Humpleman discloses the use of security features, authenticating devices and users. Humpleman, Abstract, fig.8, fig.11, fig.12, col.9 ln.28, col.9 ln.45, col.14 ln.15-30. Humpleman discloses the use of device link file and page, and session manager where the states of the home devices are acknowledged and stored.);

receiving and transmitting commands from the data collection device to a communication interface of the at least one electronic device via an interface of a data collection device (Humpleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67), the commands including centralized status data of the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.17-40, col.8 ln.37-54. Also, Humpleman discloses the use of a database for status data of the devices in col.12 ln.3-6.).

storing centralized status data of the at least one electronic device in at least one of a memory and a database based on the converted data (Humpleman, col.2 ln.33-49, col.6 ln.21-31, col.8 ln.10-31, col.10 ln.41-col.11 ln.64, col.21 ln.6-10, Fig.1. Humpleman discloses the method of discovering devices on the home network, creates a device link file, authenticating which devices are currently connected to the device. Also, Humpleman discloses the use of security features, authenticating devices and users. Humpleman, Abstract, fig.8, fig.11, fig.12, col.9 ln.28, col.9 ln.45, col.14 ln.15-30. Humpleman discloses the use of device link file and page, and session manager where the states of the home devices are acknowledged and stored.);

and providing a status indication of the at least one electronic device on a display of the data collection device based on the stored centralized data (Humpleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67).

Regarding claim 30, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 27, and further discloses, a method, further comprising the step of: receiving and transmitting commands from the data collection device to the communication interface of the at least one electronic device via an interface of the data collection device (Humpleman, Abstract, col.1 ln.24-35, col.1 ln.48-52, col.2 ln.18-36, col.5 ln.57 - col.6 ln.2. Humpleman discloses the use of a common interface on the devices of the system. Humpleman, Abstract, fig.8, fig.11, fig.12, col.9 ln.28, col.9 ln.45, col.14 ln.15-30. Humpleman discloses the use of device link file and page, and session manager where the states of the home devices are acknowledged and stored.).

Regarding claim 31, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 1, and further discloses, a method wherein said forwarding step comprises at least one of connecting the data collection device to a communications network or receiving data via the communication interface (Humpleman, Abstract, fig.8, fig.11, fig.12, col.9 ln.28, col.9 ln.45, col.14 ln.15-30.).

Regarding claim 32, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 31, and further discloses, a method wherein the communication network is the Internet (Humpleman, col.3 ln.48-50, col.10 ln.41-45).

Regarding claim 33, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 27, and further discloses, a method wherein the data collection device is a server (Humpleman, Abstract, fig.8, fig.11, fig.12, col.9 ln.28, col.9 ln.45, col.14 ln.15-30. Humpleman discloses the

use of device link file and page, and session manager where the states of the home devices are acknowledged and stored.).

Regarding claim 34, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 30, and further discloses a method wherein the communication interface is a WiFi device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67.).

Regarding claim 35, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 31, and further discloses wherein the communication interface is a WiFi device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67.).

Regarding claim 36, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 4, and further discloses, a method wherein the interface of the data collection device comprises at least an infrared interface, an RF interface, and a WiFi interface (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67.).

Regarding claim 37, Humpleman discloses a method for remotely controlling electronic at least one electronic device in a local operating environment (Humpleman, Abstract, col.1 ln.24-35, col.1 ln.48-52, col.2 ln.18-36, col.5 ln.57 - col.6 ln.2.), comprising the steps of: forwarding commands over a network from a data collection device to the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67);

receiving the forwarded commands in at least one electronic device interactively coupled to the system via an internal interface or a LAN which is connected to the network (Humbleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67);

controlling the data collection device upon accessing the system using an external display unit connected to the network (Humbleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67);

authenticating the at least one electronic device at the data collection device upon recognizing an authentication device (Humbleman, col.2 ln.33-49, col.6 ln.21-31, col.8 ln.10-31, col.10 ln.41-col.11 ln.64, col.21 ln.6-10, Fig.1. Humbleman discloses the method of discovering devices on the home network, creates a device link file, authenticating which devices are currently connected to the device. Also, Humbleman discloses the use of security features, authenticating devices and users. Humbleman, Abstract, fig.8, fig.11, fig.12, col.9 ln.28, col.9 ln.45, col.14 ln.15-30. Humbleman discloses the use of device link file and page, and session manager where the states of the home devices are acknowledged and stored.);

remotely accessing the at least one device upon receiving authorization by an authentication device (Humbleman, col.2 ln.33-49, col.6 ln.21-31, col.8 ln.10-31, col.10 ln.41-col.11 ln.64, col.21 ln.6-10, Fig.1. Humbleman discloses the method of discovering devices on the home network, creates a device link file, authenticating which devices are currently connected to the device. Also, Humbleman discloses the use of security features, authenticating devices and users.);

receiving and transmitting commands from the data collection device to the at least one electronic device (Humbleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67);

continuously monitoring the system via a third party device connected to the network (Humpleman, Abstract, col.1 ln.24-35, col.1 ln.48-52, col.2 ln.18-36, col.5 ln.57 - col.6 ln.2.).

Regarding claim 38, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 37, and further discloses, a method wherein the data collection device comprises a processor (Humpleman, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67. Humpleman discloses the use of computing devices which utilize processors, such as PCs.);

a translation engine operatively coupled to the processor for converting at least one of data, communications from RF devices or data protocols for transmitting/receiving data to the data collection device (Humpleman, Abstract, col.4 ln.21-53, col.5 ln.35-40. Humpleman discloses the use of various networking protocols, including wireless communications.);

an interface for receiving and transmitting commands from the apparatus to the internal interface of the at least one electronic devices (Humpleman, col.2 ln.23-35, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.6 ln.51-67, col.18 ln.63-67), said commands including centralized status data of the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.17-40, col.8 ln.37-54. Also, Humpleman discloses the use of a database for status data of the devices in col.12 ln.3-6.);

memory operatively coupled to the processor (Humpleman, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67. Humpleman discloses the use of computing devices that include memory, such as PCs.);

a database operatively coupled to the processor for storing centralized status data of the at least one device (Humpleman, col.2 ln.32-43, col.5 ln.16-27, col.21 ln.54, col.12 ln.3-6, col.5 ln.24-30. Humpleman, Abstract, fig.8, fig.11, fig.12, col.9 ln.28, col.9 ln.45, col.14 ln.15-30.

Art Unit: 2155

Humpleman discloses the use of device link file and page, and session manager where the states of the home devices are acknowledged and stored. Humpleman, col.5 ln.17-40, col.8 ln.37-54.

Also, Humpleman discloses the use of a database for status data of the devices in col.12 ln.3-6.); and a display for providing an indication of the status of the at least one electronic device (Humpleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67).

Regarding claim 42, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 40, and further discloses, a method wherein the authentication device directly accesses the data collection device via the RF interface (Humpleman, col.4 ln.21-53, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67.).

Regarding claim 43, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 37, and further discloses, a method wherein the authentication device is a wireless device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67. Humpleman discloses the use of wireless protocols and devices for the home networking system.).

Regarding claim 46, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 37, and further discloses, wherein the at least one electronic device is a home alarm system, a digital video recorder, a personal computer, a cable modem, a camera, a PBX system and corresponding phones, and home appliances (Humpleman, col.1 ln.24-39).

Regarding claim 47, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 46, and further discloses, a method wherein the home appliances are at least one of a refrigerator, or an oven (Humpleman, col.1 ln.24-39).

Regarding claim 48, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 37, and further discloses, a method wherein the internal interface is a WiFi device (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67.).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

12. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

13. Claims 2, 3, 6, 15, 16, 17, 20, 26, 28, 29, 30, 40, 41, 44, 45, and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Humpleman et al. (US Patent #7,103,834 B1), hereinafter referred to as Humpleman, in view of Bandhole et al. (US Publication #2002/0049803 A1), hereinafter referred to as Bandhole.

Regarding claim 2, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 1, and further discloses, an apparatus further comprising security features, authenticating devices and users for protection against unauthorized devices (Humpleman, col.21 ln.6-10). However, Humpleman fails to explicitly disclose a firewall.

Bandhole discloses a system and method of providing a dynamic computing environment, using remotely allocable resources, such as home networking (Bandhole, Abstract, paragraph [0003]). Bandhole further discloses the use of a firewall for protecting the at least one electronic device from external access by unauthorized devices (Bandhole, paragraphs [0026], [0042], [0048]). One would have been motivated to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to include a firewall to the home network, as the use of firewall for prevention of unauthorized access was well-known in the art at the time the invention was made.

Regarding claim 3, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 1, the use of display for presenting an interface for the user (Humpleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67). However, Humpleman fails to explicitly disclose the use of a touch screen.

Bandhole discloses the use of a touch screen for a dynamic computing environment, such as home networks (Bandhole, Abstract, paragraphs [0003], [0035]). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize a touch screen for presenting a compatible interface for the user, where the user is enabled to view and input commands for the home devices. One would have been motivated to do so, as touch-screens were a well-known display in the art, which allows direct input from a user, without the use of external input devices, such as a keyboard and a mouse.

Regarding claim 6, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 5, and further discloses, an apparatus which includes memory cards (Humpleman, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2,

col.18 ln.63-67), however, fails to explicitly describe the memory card comprising a MMS card or a SIM card.

Bandhole discloses the use of a device wherein the at least one memory card comprises at least one MMS card or at least one SIM card (Bandhole, paragraph [0025]. Bandhole discloses the use of smart-card devices, personal digital assistants, hand-held computers, etc.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize memory cards or integrated circuit cards such as an MMS card or a SIM card for storage of information. One would have been motivated to do so, as memory cards or integrated circuit cards, such as MMS cards or SIM cards, were well-known in the art as an alternative device for storing information such as identity, configuration parameters, etc.

Regarding claim 15, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 13, and further discloses, a system wherein the authentication device includes a memory card (Humpleman, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67) and utilizes various wireless communications such as RF (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67. Humpleman discloses the use of wireless protocols and devices for the home networking system.), however, fails to explicitly disclose the use of SIM card.

Bandhole discloses the use of a device wherein the at least one memory card comprises at least one MMS card or at least one SIM card (Bandhole, paragraph [0025]. Bandhole discloses the use of smart-card devices, personal digital assistants, hand-held computers, etc.) as well as a Bluetooth interface (Bandhole, paragraph [0025]). It would have been obvious to one of

Art Unit: 2155

ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize memory cards or integrated circuit cards such as an MMS card or a SIM card for storage of information. One would have been motivated to do so, as memory cards or integrated circuit cards, such as MMS cards or SIM cards, were well-known in the art as an alternative device for storing information such as identity, configuration parameters, etc. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman to utilize Bluetooth interface as disclosed by Bandhole, as Bluetooth was a well-known and common wireless standard utilized for short-range wireless networking, such as home networking.

Regarding claim 16, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 15, and further discloses, a system wherein the authentication device accesses the data collection device via various wireless communications such as RF (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67.), however, fails to explicitly cite the use of Bluetooth.

Bandhole discloses, a home networking system that utilizes Bluetooth interface (Bandhole, paragraph [0025]). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman to utilize Bluetooth interface as disclosed by Bandhole, for a system wherein the authentication device accesses the data collection device via at least one of the Bluetooth interface or a RF interface to remotely access the system. One would have been motivated to do so, as Bluetooth was a well-known and common wireless standard utilized for short-range wireless networking, such as home networking.

Regarding claim 17, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 16, and further discloses, a system wherein upon accessing the data collection device via the Bluetooth interface (Bandhole, paragraph [0025]) a connection to the display unit occurs (Humpleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67).

Regarding claim 20, although Humpleman discloses the use of wireless devices, he fails to explicitly disclose wherein the wireless device is a cell phone or a wireless enabled personal digital assistant.

Bandhole discloses the use of a wireless devices such as personal digital assistant and mobile phones (Bandhole, paragraph [0025], [0041]. Bandhole discloses the use of wireless devices such as personal digital assistants, hand-held computers, mobile phones, etc.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize PDAs and mobile phones, as those were common and well-known wireless devices enabled to carry out computing processes.

Regarding claim 22, although Humpleman discloses the use of wireless devices, he fails to explicitly disclose wherein the third party device is a cell phone or a wireless enabled personal digital assistant.

Bandhole discloses the use of a wireless devices such as personal digital assistant and mobile phones (Bandhole, paragraph [0025], [0041]. Bandhole discloses the use of wireless

Art Unit: 2155

devices such as personal digital assistants, hand-held computers, mobile phones, etc.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize PDAs and mobile phones, as those were common and well-known wireless devices enabled to carry out computing processes.

Regarding claim 26, although Humpleman discloses the use of wireless devices and personal computers (Humpleman, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67), he fails to explicitly disclose wherein the third party device is a cell phone or a wireless enabled personal digital assistant.

Bandhole discloses the use of a wireless devices such as personal digital assistant and mobile phones (Bandhole, paragraph [0025], [0041]. Bandhole discloses the use of wireless devices such as personal digital assistants, hand-held computers, mobile phones, etc.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize PDAs and mobile phones, as those were common and well-known wireless devices that could to carry out computing processes.

Regarding claim 28, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 27, 28. The method of claim 27, further comprising the step of: protecting the at least one electronic device from external access by unauthorized devices via a firewall which is operatively coupled to the processor (Humpleman, col. , lines).

an apparatus further comprising security features, authenticating devices and users for protection against unauthorized devices (Humpleman, col.21 ln.6-10). However, Humpleman fails to explicitly disclose a firewall.

Bandhole discloses a system and method of providing a dynamic computing environment, using remotely allocable resources, such as home networking (Bandhole, Abstract, paragraph [0003]). Bandhole further discloses the use of a firewall for protecting the at least one electronic device from external access by unauthorized devices (Bandhole, paragraphs [0026], [0042], [0048]). One would have been motivated to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to include a firewall to the home network, as the use of firewall for prevention of unauthorized access was well-known in the art at the time the invention was made.

Regarding claim 29, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 27, the use of display for presenting an interface for the user (Humpleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67). However, Humpleman fails to explicitly disclose the use of a touch screen.

Bandhole discloses the use of a touch screen for a dynamic computing environment, such as home networks (Bandhole, Abstract, paragraphs [0003], [0035]). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize a touch screen for presenting a compatible interface for the user, where the user is enabled to view and input commands for the home devices. One would have been motivated to do so, as touch-screens were a well-known display in the art, which allows direct input from a user, without the use of external input devices, such as a keyboard and a mouse.

Regarding claim 39, although Humpleman disclose the limitations, as described in claim 15, a method wherein the authentication device includes various wireless communications such as RF (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67.), however, fails to explicitly cite the use of Bluetooth.

Bandhole discloses, a home networking system that utilizes Bluetooth interface (Bandhole, paragraph [0025]). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman to utilize Bluetooth interface as disclosed by Bandhole, for a system wherein the authentication device accesses the data collection device via at least one of the Bluetooth interface or a RF interface to remotely access the system. One would have been motivated to do so, as Bluetooth was a well-known and common wireless standard utilized for short-range wireless networking, such as home networking.

Regarding claim 40, although Humpleman disclose the limitations, as described in claim 15, a method wherein the authentication device utilizes various wireless communications such as RF (Humpleman, col.5 ln.35-40, col.5 ln.65-col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.63-67.), however, fails to explicitly cite the use of Bluetooth.

Bandhole discloses, a home networking system that utilizes Bluetooth interface (Bandhole, paragraph [0025]). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman to utilize Bluetooth interface as disclosed by Bandhole, for a system wherein the authentication device accesses the data collection device via at least one of the Bluetooth interface or a RF interface to remotely

Art Unit: 2155

access the system. One would have been motivated to do so, as Bluetooth was a well-known and common wireless standard utilized for short-range wireless networking, such as home networking.

Regarding claim 41, Humpleman disclosed the limitations, as described in claim 40, a method wherein upon accessing the data collection device via the Bluetooth interface (Bandhole, paragraph [0025]) a connection to the display unit occurs (Humpleman, Fig.3A, col.5 ln.3-8, col.5 ln.60-67).

Regarding claim 44, although Humpleman discloses the use of wireless devices and personal computers (Humpleman, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67), he fails to explicitly disclose wherein the wireless device is a cell phone or a wireless enabled personal digital assistant.

Bandhole discloses the use of a wireless devices such as personal digital assistant and mobile phones (Bandhole, paragraph [0025], [0041]. Bandhole discloses the use of wireless devices such as personal digital assistants, hand-held computers, mobile phones, etc.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize PDAs and mobile phones, as those were common and well-known wireless devices that could to carry out computing processes.

Regarding claim 45, although Humpleman discloses the use of wireless devices and personal computers (Humpleman, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67), he fails to explicitly disclose wherein the third party device is a cell phone or a wireless enabled personal digital assistant.

Bandhole discloses the use of a wireless devices such as personal digital assistant and mobile phones (Bandhole, paragraph [0025], [0041]. Bandhole discloses the use of wireless devices such as personal digital assistants, hand-held computers, mobile phones, etc.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize PDAs and mobile phones, as those were common and well-known wireless devices that could to carry out computing processes.

Regarding claim 49, although Humpleman discloses the use of wireless devices and personal computers (Humpleman, col.5 ln.57 – col.6 ln.2, col.18 ln.64-67), he fails to explicitly disclose wherein the third party device is a cell phone or a wireless enabled personal digital assistant.

Bandhole discloses the use of a wireless devices such as personal digital assistant and mobile phones (Bandhole, paragraph [0025], [0041]. Bandhole discloses the use of wireless devices such as personal digital assistants, hand-held computers, mobile phones, etc.). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teachings of Humpleman with those of Bandhole to utilize PDAs and mobile phones,

as those were common and well-known wireless devices that could to carry out computing processes.

Conclusion

Examiner's Note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

In the case of amending the claimed invention, Applicant is respectfully requested to indicate the portion(s) of the specification which dictate(s) the structure relied on for proper interpretation and also to verify and ascertain the metes and bounds of the claimed invention.

The prior art made of record and not relied up on is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Chiles et al., US Publication #2001/0034759, Home-networking.
- Fowler, US Patent #6,714,977 B1, Method and system for monitoring computer networks and equipment.
- Kerchner, US Patent #6,559,882 B1, Domestic Appliance.

Art Unit: 2155

- Krzyzanowski et al., US Publication #2004/0003051 A1, Method, system and computer program product for managing controlled residential or non-residential environments.
- Chen et al., US Publication #2001/0030950 A1, discloses an integrated phone-based home gateway system for providing in-home and to-home networking.
- Beukema, Patent #6,243,413 B1, Modular home-networking communication system and method using disparate communication channels.

A Shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire 3 month(s) or thirty (30) days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edward J. Kim whose telephone number is (571) 270-3228. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:30am - 5:00pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2155

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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